

# Neighborhood, Homeowners, & Civic Associations



**Featuring Five Points Historic Neighborhood Association!**

## It Will Benefit You!

Wonderful! You are reading this newsletter either because your neighborhood has formed a Neighborhood, Homeowners, or Civic Association or you are interested in beginning one. Currently in the City of Huntsville, there are 29 Neighborhood, Homeowner, and Civic Associations stretching from South Memorial Parkway to Monte Sano to North Memorial Parkway and to I565 West. How have these neighborhoods benefitted? How will yours benefit? There are numerous advantages

to having a direct relationship with the City of Huntsville. Direct contact, group representation, available city resources, government support, organization, and a heightened sense of community, are just a few outcomes of a successful Neighborhood or Civic Association. Outgoing President Jim Marek of the Huntsville Citywide Neighborhood Associations says, "I think the neighborhoods that have formed neighborhood associations truly see the benefit. Those that

haven't formed associations, really need to look into it and invest. There's value in communication and connections, knowing *who* to contact, and knowing that there are people *to* contact. There is value in these things." But don't take our word for it. Read about the Five Points Historic District Neighborhood Association in this issue!



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### **Tip from Huntsville Police Department**

**Thieves hate bright lights. Install outside lights and keep them on at night.  
Keep your yard clean.  
Prune back shrubbery so it doesn't hide doors or windows. Cut back tree limbs that a thief could use to climb to an upper-level window.**

**Inside this issue:**

## 'Well, What's the Point?'

1. To create a partnership between the City and its neighborhoods in order to provide the neighborhoods with tools and resources for

planning and development which reflect their needs and values.

2. To strengthen and coordinate City departments' responses to neighborhood prob-

lems and requests for help.

3. To foster cooperation and consensus among diverse interests within neighborhoods and (cont. pg. 4)

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## A Look into Five Points Historic District Association

If you speak with Bert Peake, the president of Five Points Historic District Association (FPHDA), about his community, the sheer pride he and his neighbors have in their beautiful neighborhood will be obvious. The Five Points Historic District was formed by a vote of the City Council in 1999, and a year later, the Association was formed to represent the interests of the district collectively. From O'Shaughnessy Ave, to Wells Road, to Andrew Jackson Way, to Grayson Road lie the FPHDA, an area with a collection of admirably-preserved history. With goals to preserve the historical significance of the homes, establish mutual protection and safety, and encourage events to promote community spirit, and more, the FPHDA has seen great improvements since its establishment 12 years ago. Peake shared that the association has "especially given neighbors points of contact," and that "with over 400 homes in the district, it would be difficult to locate a leader or resources without the association." Furthermore, through the organiza-

tion, several residents have assumed key positions. "[The Association] has given our residents a voice on several local boards and commissions, which directly impact the quality of life we enjoy in Five Points," Peake explained.

So how exactly has FPHDA improved the area? Perhaps the most glorified accomplishment, which highlights the neighborhood's uniqueness, was the erection of over 100 historic markers recognizing the historic significance of individual homes. FPHDA awaits National Register of Historic Places status, which will increase the pride, respect, and interest in the already-wonderful district. Other notable accomplishments are the improvements made to Wellman Park and Lewter Park, in partnership with Huntsville's Landscape Management, Recreation Services Departments, and Operation Green Team; biannual neighborhood clean-ups; the establishment of the Annual Walking Tour, sponsored by the Conventional and Visitors Bureau; the organization of an annual yard sale, bringing in and introduc-

ing Huntsville residents to the Five Points area; and the participation in the annual Cemetery Stroll and Home Tour with Maple Hill Cemetery. This tight-knit community has surely become one-of-a-kind since the creation of its Historic District Status, regarded as the most beneficial event yet, and helping to hold it all together at the center, lies the association, the physical point of contact for the City and other groups who share its common interests and objectives. The association operates according to a set of by-laws, adopted at its creation, and is guided by elected officials. Members meet biannually, in the spring and fall, to fellowship, enjoy food, discuss club business, and occasionally hear guest speakers. To complement these meetings, FPHDA distributes two newsletters per year to all its district members.

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### Huntsville City Schools

Have children in Huntsville City Schools? Be sure to review the 2012-2013 school calendar and make any changes to holiday plans as needed. The 2012-2013 original school calendar has been adjusted and updated. Fall Break and Winter Break have been affected.

## Prevent Home Invasions! (HPD)

Follow these suggestions to lower your risk of a home invasion:

- Keep doors and windows locked even when you are at home.
- If you see someone outside your home that looks suspicious, contact the police and ask them to investigate.
- Use the door peephole BEFORE opening the door.
- Never rely on a chain-latch as a barrier to partially open the door.
- Alert your neighbors to suspicious solicitors.
- Hold a family meeting to discuss home security plans.

For more safety tips, please visit [www.hsvpolice.com/](http://www.hsvpolice.com/)

# Neighborhood Association Directory

Neighborhood/Civic Association	Main Contact Email	Upcoming Meetings - Place & Time
Chaffee Community	ebrusick@att.net	4th Mon @ 6:30pm - Community Baptist Church,
Crestwood	pvillarrea@aol.com	TBD
East Mastin Lake	opalmeek@comcast.net	1st Tues @ 6:30pm - Solid Rock Church, 403 Trey-more Ave
Edmonton Heights	coachdref1@aol.com	2nd Mon - Madison City Comm. Dist., 6 Hi Lo Dr
English Village	gmbob@att.net	Aug. 8, Oct. 10, Dec. 12 @ 7:00pm - The Dwelling Place
Farley Community	lcm039@hotmail.com	1st Tues - Farley Community Church
Fleming Meadows/ Westbury Es-	fwca.president@yahoo.com	Quarterly (email for dates) - Whitesburg Middle Sch.
Five Points Historic District Asso-	bert@hgpeake.com	Oct. 12 @ 6:00pm - Doctrinal Bible Church, 1215
Green Mountain	cngdsg@comcast.net	Oct. 21 @ 7:00pm - Fire House, Nature Trail
Holiday Homes	hhna35805@gmail.com	1st Mon @ 6:30 pm - All Nations Church, 3614 Drake Ave.
Meadow Hills Initiative	charlie.corley23@gmail.com	Sept. 21, Nov 18 - Richard Showers Center -
Merrimack Mill Village	jjmjr@knology.net	2nd Tues @ 7:00pm - Hsv Park Baptist Church, Triana Blvd
Monte Sano	marylynn.perry@kratosdefense.com	Oct 16 - St Lodge
Mount Charron	ronerino@comcast.net	Sept 24 @ 6:30pm - Richard Showers Recreation Cntr
Mount Vernon Heights	mrr5055@comcast.net	3rd Thurs @ 6:30pm - 1st Church of the Nazarene
Northeast Huntsville	coheller@bellsouth.net	Oct 24 - 2452 Mt. Vernon Dr, Optimist Park Recreation Cntr
Old Town	hblb4569@att.net;	3rd Mon @ 7:00pm - 112 Steele St
Redstone Heights	sandcrabs@knology.net	Last Tues @ 6:30 pm - TBA
Sherwood Park	rolandrld@comcast.net	4th Tues - 332 Forest Park Ct. (Contact for details)
Terry Heights/Hillandale	tjordan@secondmile.net	3rd Tues @ 5:00pm
Triana Village Assoc.	bobboyyette@bellsouth.net	Dates TBD - Friendship Baptist Church 3217 Village Dr
Twickenham Association	embark7@comcast.net	TBD - 500 Franklin St.
University Park	susan.hill@ses-i.com	2nd Mon @ 6:30pm - Univ Bapt. Ch
West Huntsville/Lowe Mill	lowemill@aol.com	Aug & Nov @ 6:00pm - Central Baptist Church, 9th Ave & 1st
Westlawn Civic	rubywitthuhn@yahoo.com	2nd Mon @ 6:00pm - 2007 14th St SW
Whitesburg Estates	dhayg777@aol.com	Apr 17, July 17, & Oct 16 @ 6:30pm - Hillwood Bap-

## City of Huntsville, Alabama

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*We're on the Web!*

*[www.huntsvilleal.gov](http://www.huntsvilleal.gov)*



**HUNTSVILLE**  
The Star of Alabama

*One City, One Vision*

### What are the objectives? (Cont.)

to encourage the constructive settlement of disputes involving neighborhood groups, the City, and others.

4. To facilitate communication between the neighborhoods regarding common concerns. Encourage and facilitate strong neighborhood involvement as an important activity in the City of Huntsville.

5. To identify other/possible neighborhood associations.

6. Mentor new/evolving neighborhood associations.

### A Look into Five Points Historic District Association (Cont.)

Now, plainly and simply, why are Neighborhood, Homeowners, and Civic Associations advantageous? According to FPHDA's history and straight from the mouth of its president, it "gives a voice to the neighbors. It lets them feel like a part of a community—all a little bit closer together. It helps them gather together their resources so that in a group [they] can accomplish way more than [anyone] would individually." Proof of this certainly lies within the boundaries of the Five Points Historic District Association. Why don't you take a look for yourself?

*The Huntsville Citywide Council of Neighborhood Associations was started in 2010 to enhance the quality of life within all communities of the City of Huntsville by promoting and fostering participation and communication as a neutral liaison among neighborhood associations/organizations, elected representatives of the City, and Huntsville City staff to facilitate the resolution of neighborhood problems. Likewise, the Office of Multicultural Affairs has committed to serving the Neighborhood, Civic, and Homeowners Associations to promote the Mayor's initiative of One City, One Vision. In other words, we are here for you, the People of the City of Huntsville.*



*"The more I got involved, the more I realized how much effort city employees give. It's not just an 8-to-5 for them. I have to give them credit."*

- Jim Marek, Jr, Outgoing HCNA President

#### HCNA Officers

##### **President**

Lucille McMahan

##### **Vice President**

James Marek, Jr.

##### **Committee Chairman**

Lyle Voyles

*Come and join us every **4th Tuesday of the month** at **City Hall** (308 Fountain Cr) for our regular HCNA meetings!*

#### FPHDA Officers

##### **President**

Bert Peake

##### **Vice President**

Buddy Guynes

##### **Treasurer**

Fred Coffey

##### **Secretaries**

Debbie Mayes

Gwen Walker